

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## Division of Habitat

1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701 (907) 459-7289 FAX (907) 459-7303

E-Mail: mac.mclean@alaska.gov

### RECREATIONAL SUCTION DREDGE PERMIT (Dalton Highway)

PERMIT NO. FH\_\_\_\_\_ - III - \_\_\_\_\_ SD

(Permit valid in 2008 during authorized dates)

1. Name of Operator \_\_\_\_\_
2. Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_
4. E-Mail Address (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_ 5. FAX No. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Dredge Intake Nozzle Diameter (in.) \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Engine (hp) \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Schedule (dates): \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Ave. Hrs.Worked/Week: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Authorized Stream Locations: See attached list.

#### PERMIT STIPULATIONS (stipulations #1, #6, and #7 apply for 841 streams; all stipulations apply for 871 streams)

1. Intake nozzle diameter shall be six or less inches in diameter and shall be powered by 18 hp or less engine.
2. Streambanks shall not be mined or otherwise disturbed. Dredging is permitted within only the existing wetted perimeter (waterline) in the active stream channel. This stipulation does not apply to suction dredges operating within mine cuts located above the ordinary high water line or disconnected ponds and meander cutoffs.
3. Suction dredges shall not be used as hydraulic monitors to wash soils or other materials from above the water surface.
4. Winches shall not be used to move instream boulders, logs, and other natural obstructions which provide fish habitat and which are too large to move by hand.
5. No wheeled or tracked equipment shall be used instream.
6. No damming or diversions are authorized.
7. Overland (off-road) vehicle access to the mining area that involves ford crossings of anadromous fish streams is NOT authorized under this Recreational Suction Dredge Permit. An Individual Fish Habitat Permit is required for these ford crossings. Please attach a USGS quad map showing the access route to the mining area, including all stream crossings.

This permit constitutes approval pursuant to AS 16.05.841 and AS 16.05.871(d) and authorizes the above named person(s) to operate the described suction dredge(s) within the described stream locations and within the dates permitted. Anyone operating the described dredge(s) at locations or dates other than those listed in Part 10 or in noncompliance with the permit stipulations is subject to the penalty provisions of AS 16.05.841 and AS 16.05.871. **Please be advised that this approval does not relieve you of the responsibility of securing other permits, state, federal, or local nor does it authorize trespass on mineral claims or private lands.**

Issued by (ADF&G) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*I certify that I am a recreational miner, that I have read and understand the conditions of this permit, and that I agree to be bound by these conditions pursuant to Alaska Statutes AS 16.05.841 (Fishway Act) and AS 16.05.871 (Anadromous Fish Act), as applicable.*

Signed (Applicant) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME – DIVISION OF HABITAT**  
**Recreational Suction Dredge Permits**

**General:** A recreational suction dredge permit is required to dredge in a waterbody designated as important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fish or that is used by resident fish as a migratory corridor. This permit may be obtained from the ADF&G, Division of Habitat located closest to your proposed dredging location. You may determine whether a waterbody is designated as important for anadromous fish by calling or visiting any ADF&G office and looking at the map catalog and atlas that legally identify designated anadromous fish streams.

**Definition of Recreational Suction Dredging:** ADF&G considers a suction dredge operation recreational if the dredge has an intake diameter of six (6) inches or less, powered by an 18 horsepower or less engine.

*NOTE: On state land, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water also classifies suction dredges with an intake 6 inches or less recreational. Dredge operators with an intake larger than 6 inches should contact the Alaska Division of Mining, Land and Water (451-2790) to obtain commercial mining application instructions.*

*Federal land manager consider dredges with an intake 4 inches or smaller recreational. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) consider dredges with an intake 10 inches or smaller recreational. Larger dredges are considered commercial operations and require prior notice or approval from the federal land manager, EPA and COE. Applicants should contact the Bureau of Land Management (907-474-2200), COE (907-474-2166), and EPA (907-271-3401) to obtain application instructions.*

**Application Fee:** There is **no charge** for an ADF&G Recreational Suction Dredge Permit.

**Land Status:** ADF&G's Fish Habitat permitting requirements apply to all lands in Alaska, including state, federal and private. Issuance of an ADF&G Fish Habitat Permit does not eliminate the need to obtain other state, federal or local permits or approvals from private property or mine claim owners. The Alaska Division of Mining, Land and Water and the Bureau of Land Management can provide information on land status, the presence of valid mining claims, and whether an area is open for recreational suction dredge mining. You must have the permission of the legal owner to suction dredge on a valid mining claim.

**Environmental Considerations:** Even with simple tools or a small suction dredge, cumulative impacts can occur over time unless you follow permit conditions. Special care shall be taken to minimize scarring the terrain or destroying natural resources. The greatest single effect a suction dredge has on the environment is the danger it poses to fish. The dredge pump forces water and gravel through the nozzle and hose at 9 to 10 feet per second. Fish eggs taken up with the gravel cannot survive the shock, pressure, battering, and pounding that comes with moving through the hose and sluice. If the fish egg should somehow survive the hose and sluice, the chances for being reburied in the gravel at the right depth, gravel composition and location are virtually nonexistent. To prevent these impacts, your Recreational Suction Dredge Permit may include timing restrictions to protect developing eggs. Suction dredging is not allowed in salmon spawning areas after the adult salmon have returned to spawn.

Salmon bury their eggs in gravel nests called "redds." Other fish like Arctic grayling, northern pike, and whitefish spawn in the stream and the eggs settle to the streambed where they remain on the gravel surface throughout the incubation period. The material that runs through a suction dredge flows downstream and settles among the gravel and rocks in the streambed. Too much silt and sand make it difficult for the salmon to dig suitable redds. The silt and sand can also smother fish eggs already deposited or restrict inter-gravel water flow around the eggs. Fish and aquatic insects which fish eat have difficulty living in heavily silted streams. To prevent these impacts, your Recreational Suction Dredge Permit includes several stipulations prohibiting the washing of material from above the waterline or dredging of streambanks. Dredging may occur only within the active stream channel or on unvegetated gravel bars.

If you plan to take an ATV (all terrain vehicle) into a roadless area, you may need a permit from the land manager or a Fish Habitat Permit from the ADF&G if you will ford a waterbody designated as important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fish.

As with all outdoor activities, refuse and garbage should be packed out and placed in an approved solid waste disposal site, litter barrel, or thoroughly burned and buried. Please help to keep Alaska beautiful for the next recreational suction dredger, fishermen or outdoor enthusiast to follow.

## 10. Authorized Stream Locations

**ADVISORY: The Bureau of Land Management generally prohibits all gold mining on its land using motorized equipment within one mile of the Trans Alaska Pipeline. Exceptions may be authorized by BLM on prior existing mining claims with written BLM authorization. Please check with BLM before you begin mining. Non-motorized gold mining (pick/shovel, hand panning, non-motorized rocker boxes, etc.) are authorized on BLM land.**

Stream Name	Location	Milepost	Anadromous Catalog Stream No.	Dates Permitted	841/871
Fish Creek	Sections 19, 20, 21, and 28, T20N, R15W, FM	114		7/25 to 10/15	841
Bonanza Creek	Sections 11 and 12, T21N, R15W, FM	124		5/15 to 10/15	841
Bonanza Creek	Section 7, T21N, R14W, FM	124		5/15 to 10/15	841
South Fork Bonanza Creek	Sections 7, 8, and 9, T21N, R14W, FM	124		5/15 to 10/15	841
North Fork Bonanza Creek	Sections 6, 5, and 7, T21N, R14W, FM	125		5/15 to 10/15	841
North Fork Bonanza Creek	Sections 31, 32, and 33, T22N, R14W, FM	126		5/15 to 10/15	841
Prospect Creek	Section 4, T23N, R14W, FM	134	334-40-11000-2125-3740-4080-5030	5/15 to 10/15	871
Prospect Creek	Sections 32, 33, and 34, T23N, R14W, FM	134	334-40-11000-2125-3740-4080-5030	5/15 to 10/15	871
Prospect Creek	Sections 26, 25, and 36, T23N, R15W, FM and Sections 30 and 31, T23N, R14W	134	334-40-11000-2125-3740-4080-5030	5/15 to 7/1	871
Jim River	Sections 13, 23, 24, 27, 26, and 25, T23N, R15W, FM	134/136	334-40-11000-2125-3740-4080	5/15 to 7/1	871
Jim River	Sections 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, and 18, T23N, R14W, FM	136/142	334-40-11000-2125-3740-4080	5/15 to 7/1	871

Stream Name	Location	Milepost	Anadromous Catalog Stream No.	Dates Permitted	841/871
Jim River	Sections 23, 25, 24, 26, 27, and 34, T24N, R14W, FM	142-146	334-40-11000-2125-3740-4080	5/15 to 7/1	871
Jim River	Sections 20, 19, 18, 17, 8, and 9, T24N, R13W, FM	146/149	334-40-11000-2125-3740-4080	5/15 to 7/1	871
South Fork Koyukuk River	Sections 1, 2, 3, and 10, T25N, R13W, FM	156.3	334-40-11000-2125-3740	5/15 to 7/1	871
South Fork Koyukuk River	Sections 6 and 5, T25N, R12W, FM	156.3	334-40-11000-2125-3740	5/15 to 7/1	871
South Fork Koyukuk River	Sections 32, 28, and 29, T26N, R12W, FM	156.3	334-40-11000-2125-3740	5/15 to 7/1	871
Middle Fork Koyukuk River	Sections 1, 11, 12, 14, 15, 22 and 23, T27N, R13W	164/170	334-40-11000-2125-3912	5/15 to 7/1	871
Middle Fork Koyukuk River	Section 36, T28N, R13W, FM Sections 31, 29, 30, 19, 20, 17, 16, 9, and 4, T28N, R12W, FM	170/180	334-40-11000-2125-3912	5/15 to 7/1	871
Rosie Creek	Section 1, T27N, R13W, FM Sections 5 and 6, T27N, R12W, FM	170	334-40-11000-2125-3912-4084	5/15 to 10/15	871
Slate Creek	Sections 9, 16, 15, and 14 T28N, R12W, FM	175.5	334-40-11000-2125-3912-4100	5/15 to 10/15	871
Clara Creek	Sections 2, 3, 10, and 9 T28N, R12W, FM	178	N/A	5/15 to 10/15	841
Middle Fork Koyukuk River	Sections 34, 35, 27, 26, 14, 11, 2, and 1, T29N, R12W, FM	180/185	334-40-11000-2125-3912	5/15 to 7/1	871
Dry Gulch	Sections 1 and 5 T29N, R12W, FM	184	N/A	5/15 to 10/15	841

Stream Name	Location	Milepost	Anadromous Catalog Stream No.	Dates Permitted	841/871
Minnie Creek	Section 18, T30N, R12W, FM Sections 17 and 20, T30N, R11W, FM	187	334-40-11000-2125-3912-4128	5/15 to 10/15	871
Bluff Creek	Sections 5, 8, and 9 T30N, R11W, FM	189	N/A	5/15 to 10/15	841
Hammond River	Section 5, T30N, R11W, FM Sections 32, 33, and 29 T31N, R11W, FM	190	334-40-11000-2125-3912-4135	5/15 to 10/15	871
Montana Gulch	Section 4, T30N, R11W, FM	190	N/A	5/15 to 10/15	841
Middle Fork Koyukuk River	Sections 35, 36, 25, 24, 19, 18, and 7, T30N, R12W, FM	185/188	334-40-11000-2125-3912	5/15 to 7/1	871
Middle Fork Koyukuk River	Sections 8 and 5, T30N, R11W, FM	188/190	334-40-11000-2125-3912	5/15 to 7/1	871
Nugget Creek	Sections 19, 30, 29, and 32, T31N, R10W, FM	196		5/15 to 10/15	841
Middle Fork Koyukuk River	Sections 33, 27, 34, 26, 25, and 24, T31N, R11W, FM	190/196	334-40-11000-2125-3912	5/15 to 7/1	871
Gold Creek	Sections 18, 17, and 16, T31N, R10W, FM	197.2		5/15 to 10/15	841
Middle Fork Koyukuk River	Sections 19, 18, 7, and and 6, T31N, R10W, FM	196/200	334-40-11000-2125-3912	5/15 to 7/1	871
Unnamed Creek	Sections 20 and 21, T32N, R10W, FM	202		5/15 to 10/15	841
Middle Fork Koyukuk River	Sections 31, 32, 30, 29, 20, 21, 17, 16, 8, 9, 4, and 3 T32N, R10W	200/206	334-40-11000-2125-3912	5/15 to 7/1	871

Stream Name	Location	Milepost	Anadromous Catalog Stream No.	Dates Permitted	841/871
Middle Fork Koyukuk River	Section 35, T33N, R10W, FM	206/207	334-40-11000-2125-3912	5/15 to 7/1	871
Bettles River	Section 35, T33N, R10W, FM Section 2, T32N, R10W, FM	207	334-40-11000-2125-3912-4260	5/15 to 7/1	871
Disaster Creek	Sections 14 and 13, T33N, R10W, FM	211	N/A	5/15 to 10/15	841
Marion Creek	Downstream of Section 23, T29N, R12W, FM	189	334-40-11000-2125-3912	5/15 to 7/1	871
Marion Creek	Upstream of Section 23, T29N, R12W, FM	189	N/A	5/15 to 10/15	841